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Penetration of 15-Grain Bomb Fragments Into Wallboard

TECHNICAL REPORT AFATL-TR-70-18

FEBRUARY 1970



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EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

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PENETRATION OF 15-GRAIN BOMB FRAGMENTS INTO WALLBOARD

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Richard P. Warnis

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FOREWORD

Presently, the Degradation Effects Fromum (DEP) and others are using regression equations relating the striking velocity for cylinders as a function of their penetration into wallhoard. This effort grew out of the question of whether actual bomb fragments would have a similar regression equation. This phase of the study is concerned with testing 15-grain bomb fragments. As a follow-up study, 60-grain and 240-grain bomb fragments will be investigated.

The author wishes to thank R. Brandt (ATRD) for his suggestions on analytical techniques for data evaluation. The ATRD range crew composed of Jack Byrne, Clyde Wallace, Sgt Ron Stearns, Sgt John Frayer, Sgt T.C. Costello, and AIC Earl Farabaugh provided the necessary technical support and instrumentation.

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This technical report has been reviewed and is approved.

CHARLES K. ARPKE, Lt Col, USAF Acting Chief, Technology Division

ABSTRACT

The primary objective of this program was to define a function between the striking velocity for 15-grain random shaped bomb fragments and their depth into the wallhoard trade named Nu-Wood. These fragments were fired from a 20mm Mann barrel into bundled Nu-Wood. The fragments were lightly filed to fit into a 0.975 w<1.03 gram weight range. The striking velocities were in the 500 ft/sec to 5000 ft/sec range. The graph of fragment striking velocity as a function of depth into Nu-Wood showed a wide range of depths for approximately 1000 ft/sec, 3000 ft/sec, and 5000 ft/sec striking velocities. A least squares curve would not he valuable since the penetration spread is too wide at given velocities. Fragment penetration into Nu-Wood from firing cylinders does not give a realistic picture of 15-grain actual bomb fragmentation spread. The fragment penetration into Nu-Wood was found to be a momentum as opposed to a kinetic energy effect. The depth of penetration is not a primary function of the presented area and perimeter of the impacting fragments for 3000 ft/sec and 5000 ft/sec velocities. Shots at 1000 ft/sec reveal a dependence on the presented area and perimeter of the impacting fragment.

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SECTION I

Actual 15-grain bomb fragment (irings into Nu-Wood were conducted at Range 22, Eglin AFB, during the months of July through September 1969.

The primary objective was to define a function between striking velocity and depth into Nu-Wood. Secondary objectives were:

- a. To find if the penetration into Nu-Wood is a function of the presented area and perimeter of the impacting fragment.
- b. To determine if the penetration of actual 15-grain bomb fragments into Nu-Wood is a momentum or kinetic energy effect.
- c. To observe the breakup characteristics of actual 15-grain bomb fragments in Nu-Wood.
- d. To determine the extent of deflection of the fragments relative to projected paths in air and Nu-Wood.

SECTION II TEST SET-UP

The general test set-up for the firings is shown in Figure 1. Figure 2 shows the co-ordinates X_1Y_1 , X_2Y_2 , and X_3Y_3 on the three-dimensional view of the bundle. The lower left hand corner of the bundle serves as the origin.

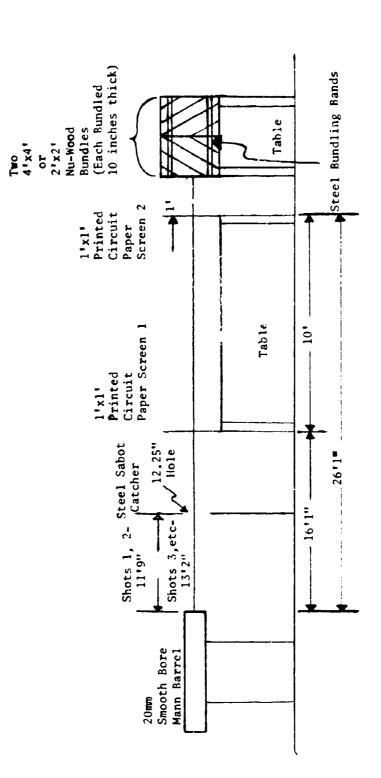
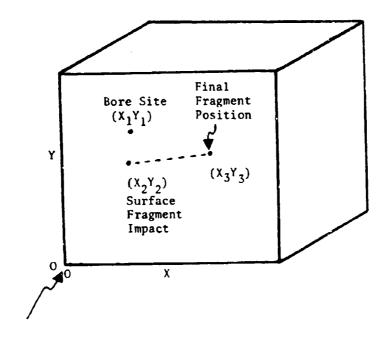


Figure 1. Test Set-up

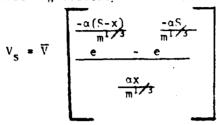


Origin at lower left hand corner of bundle

Figure 2. X and Y Co-ordinates on the Nu-Wood Bundle.

SECTION III PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

Figure 3 shows the finalized graph of striking velocity as a function of depth of penetration into Nu-Wood. These striking velocities were obtained by correcting the fragment measured velocity for air drag. The air drag correction was 0.9242 times the measured velocity to give the striking velocity. This was obtained from: 1



V. Striking velocity (feet/sec).

 \overline{V} = Average measured velocity between the screens. The first screen is at $x_0=0$, the second at x=10 feet (ft/sec),

S = Distance from the first screen to the target (11 feet).

 $\alpha = 0.0327$ (constant for an air drag coefficient $C_d = 0.640$, and density of air, $\rho = 0.310$ grains/in³).

M = Mass of fragment in grains.

Valid data points and data points estimated from powder charges are plotted on Figure 3. The fragment weight range of 0.97<w<1.03 grams is not a function of depth into Nu-Wood. Figure 3 illustrates the wide spread in depth of penetration at striking velocities near 3000 ft/sec and 5000 ft/sec.

A means of classification of the fragments into shape categories was found from close examination of the fragments and solving for ${\sf D}$ in:

$$LWD = \frac{w}{\rho}$$

LWD = Length Width Depth where L>W>D (in.).

w = Weight of fragment (lbs).

o = 0.284 lbs as the general density of steel.

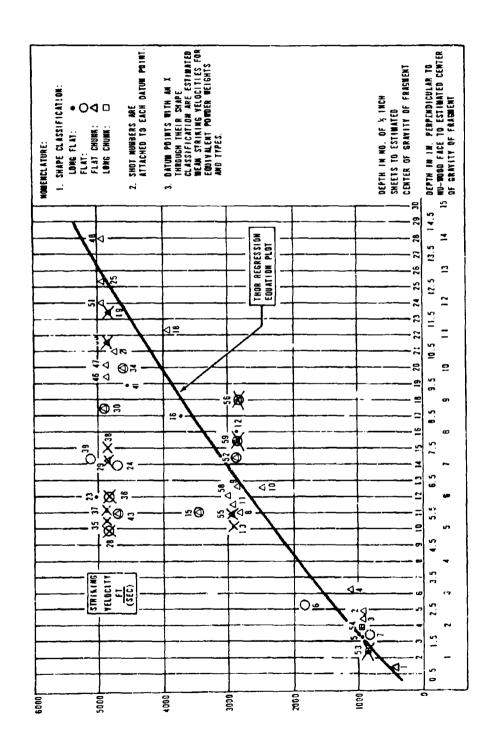
The Categories are:

L-F = Long flat, fragment 3

L-C = Long chunky, fragment 20

F = Flat, fragment 4

F-C = Flat chunky, fragment 2



Striking Velocity versus Penetration into Nu-Wood for 15-Grain Bomb Fragments. Figure 3.

The calculated P values can fit approximate groups for P (inches):

Long Plat | Plat | Plat Churby | Long Churby | 0.045 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.055 | 0.055 |

Table I shows the classification of the fragments and Figure 4 illustrates the fragments. Figure 4 fragments 1 through 20 were not photographed before the firings. After firing, many fragments were lost from impacting the ambot catcher or the printed circuit paper holders.

The data points in Figure 3 have associated fragment shape classifications. Generally, the long flats and flats are distributed to the extreme left of the graph. Long chunks and flat chunks are primarily concentrated toward the middle and extreme right of the graph.

Figure 3 has a repression plot of a penetration equation obtained by firing steel cylinders into wallhoard trade named Nu-Wood and flint-Rote. These cylinders had characteristic velocities from 30% ft/sec to 12,788 ft/sec, masses from 0.2% grains to 241.30 grains, and 0° to 70° obliquity from the projectile path to the perpendicular to the Nu-Wood surface. The finalized regression equation used for the plot is:

Va - 112481(X) 0.8091(N4//3) 0.4078

M0.9300

- Va . Attibing velocity of steel cylindrical fragments (ft/sec)
- X = Pepth of penetration measured perpendicular to the Nu-Wood surface (in.)
- K = 0.0088
- M Mass of fragment (grains)

This will be termed the Thor regression equation. The Thor regression plot for cylinders does not fit closely to the distribution of 15-grain bomb fragment data points. Long chunks and flat chunks do fit within an acceptable range of the Thor Plot.

TABLE I. IS GRAIN BOND FRACHENT SHAPE CLASSIFICATION, PONDER CHARGE, NEASURED VELOCITY, STRIKING VELOCITY, AND PENETRATION INTO NU-WOOD DATA.

TABLE I. (CONT'D)

Comments	Bad Shot	Rad Shot Fragment Hit	Sabot Catcher Rad Shot Fragment Hit	Sabot Catcher Good Shot	Rad Shot	Rad Shot	Bad Shot	Good Shot	Bad Shot		Good Shot	Bad Shot	9013	Bad Shot	Bad Shot	Good Shot	Bad Shot	Good Shot	Bad Shot	Bad Shot	Cood Shot	יייסמר אווסר	Bad Shor	Good Shot		Bad Shot	Bad Shot	Rad Shot
Nu-Nood Fragment Penetration Depth Perpendicular to Nu-Wood Surface to Estimated Center of Gravity of Fragment (in.)	N/A	N/N	V/N	10.00	5.25	6.00	3.62	7.12	N/A		9.50	4 /2		() S. S. S.	4 /2	9.75	10.00	14.00	W/W	10.75	12.50	65.7	1.25	2.00		5.50	00.6	N/A
Striking Velocity (0.9242 X Measured Velocity) (ft/sec)	4371	3599	3482	4626	3493(4854)	1551 (4854)	1497(4854)	5045 (4854)	494		4889	420		4764	1244	4870	1765(4854)	4961	1454	3043(4854)	4963	2167	588(898)	806		2062(2875)	2411(2875)	1370
Measured Velocity (ft/sec)	4730	3894	3768	ניטניג	3779(5252)			3295(5252)	534	_	4933	454		5155					4895 1573	3293(5252)	5370	4350 3154	636(972)	987		400 Grains IMR 4350 2231(3111)	2609(3111)	1482
cight Type	625 Grains IMR 4895 4730	625 Grains IMR 4895 3894	625 Grains IMR 4895 3768	1100 4 805 5005	IMR 4895	IMR 4895	TMR 4895		IMR 4895		625 Grains IMR 4895 4933	1MR 4895		IMR 4895	ž	2	2	<u>\$</u>	ž	1MR 4895	ž	ž	IMR 4350	175 Crasing 1MB 4150		IMR 4350	1MR 1350	ISR 4350 1482
Powder Weight (Grains), Type	S Grains	5 Grains	5 Grains	, d					S Grains		Signature	S Grains		Grains	Grains	O CTAIRS					S Grains	400 Grains	S Grains	S. Crasina		0 Grains	0 Grains	400 Grains
5	623	-629		<u> </u>	625	625	625	625	625	-	(62	unk 62		unk 62	55	2 3	670	625	625	625	625	unk 40	Long 175		_	<u>\$</u>	unk 40	\$
Shape Classification	Long Flat	Flat Chumk	Flat	100 A 1 A 1 A 1 A 1 A 1 A 1 A 1 A 1 A 1	riac, riac cii	Flat	Long Flat	Long Flat	Flat	7 - Yun	1000 F184	Flat, Flat Chunk 625 Grains 1MR	•	Flat, Flat Chunk 625	Flat	Flat Chunk	Fist Chunk	Flat Chunk	Flat Chunk	Flat Chunk	Flat Chunk	Flat, Flat Chunk	Long Flat, Lo	Chunk	Chunk Chunk	Flat Chunk	Flat, Flat Chunk 400 Grains IMR 4350 2609 (3111)	Long Fist
ent	-	6 0	₹	:		. 2	2	9	2 2	7.			_		٧.	<u> </u>	7	- 2	, «	,	7	13	02	5	3	s	1.3	ø
Fragment	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment		Fragment	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment	rragment	40000	Fragment 11		Fragment 13	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment	Franken	Frament	Fragment	Fracment	Fragment	-	L again	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment
Shot	<u>بر</u>	32	33		34	2 %	37	38	35	3	;	; 6	:	43	7	45	9!	÷ •	, 0	; ;	3 2	23	53		70	SS	98	22

TABLE I. (CONT'D)

Shot No.	Fragment No.	Shape Classification	Powder Weight (Grains), Type	Measured Velocity (ft/sec)	Messured Striking Velocity Velocity (0,9242 X Messured (ft/sec) Velocity) (ft/sec)	Nu-Wood Fragment Penetration Depth Perpendicular to Nu-Wood Surface to Estimated Center of Cravity of Fragment (in.)	Comments
82 53 09	Fragment 6 Fragment '3 Fragment 20	Fragment 6 Fiat Chunk Fragment 3 Fiat, Fiat Chunk Fragment 20 Long Chunk, Long	Fragment 6 Fiat Chunk 400 Grains IMR 4350 3256 Fragment 3 Flat, Flat Chunk 400 Grains IMR 4350 (Muzzle Bla Fragment 20 Long Chunk, Long 400 Grains IMR 4350 1401 Flat	3256 410(3111) (Muzzle Blast) 1401	3009 379(2875) st) 1295	6.00 7.75 N/A	Good Shot Bad Shot Bad Shot
N.	nclature: 1.	Nomenclature: 1, N/A: Not applicable 2, Velocities in parenth quite reliable and are	N/A: Not applicable Velocities in parenthesis are the mean estiquite reliable and are plotted in Figure 5.	estimates fire S.	or equivalent powder	N/A: Not applicable See the mean estimates for equivalent powder weights and types. These are quite reliable and are plotted in Figure 5.	These are

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Mr. Receivery

0.300 inches

Length: 0.565 inches

0.94 + 0.01 grams Weight: 1.00 + 0.01 grams

Width:

Width: 0.340 inches Width: 0.300 inches Fragment Fragment 4 No Recovery Weight: 1.00 + 0.01 grams Weight: 0.94 + 0.01 grams Weight: Length: 0.459 inches Length: 0.453 inches Width: 0.413 inches Width: 0.316 inches Fragment Fragment 8 No Recovery Weight: 1.00 ± 0.01 grams Weight: 0.94 ± 0.01 grams Weight: 1.00 ± 0.01 grams Length: 0.396 inches Length: 0.443 inches Width: 0.340 inches Width: 0.316 inches

Fragment

2

No Recovery

Length: 0.406 inches

Fragment

No Recovery

Length: 0.366 inches

Fragment

10

Weight:

Length:

Width:

-hreakoff

0.94 + 0.01 grams

0.680 inches

0.382 inches

Figure 4. 15-Grain Bomb Fragment Shapes

0.438 inches

0.378 inches

Fragment

11

No Recovery

Weight:

Length:

Width:

Fragment 13 0.355 inches Width:

Fragment 14

Fragment 15

No Recovery

No Recovery

Weight: 1.00 ± 0.01 grams Weight: 1.00 ± 0.01 grams Weight: 0.94 ± 0.01 grams Length: 0.482 inches Length: 0.643 inches Length: 0.395 inches

Width:

0.288 inches

0.357 inches Width:

Fragment 16

Fragment 17

Fragment 18

No Recovery

No Recovery

Weight: 0.94 + 0.01 grams

Weight: 0.94 + 0.01 grams Length: 0.770 inches

Weight: 1.00 ± 0.01 grams Length: 0.455 inches

Length: 0.490 inches 0.345 inches Width:

0.290 inches Width:

0.320 inches Width:

Fragment 19

breakoffs

Fragment 20



Weight: 0.94 + 0.01 grams

Length: 0.505 inches 0.4.0 inches

Weight: 1.00 ± 0.01 grams

Length: 0.539 inches 0.280 inches Width:

Width:

Note: These ink blot copies of fragments are slightly larger than the actual

specimens.

Figure 4. (Cont'd)

SECTION IV SECONDARY OBJECTIVES

Table II data, obtained from Fig. 5, reveals no significant relationship between depth of penetvacion as a function of presented area and perimeter of impacting fragments at 3000 ft/sec and 5000 ft/sec. At 1000 ft/sec there is a correlation with increasing penetration and decreasing impacting fragment presented area and perimeter.

Table III data shows that fragment penetration into Nu-Wood is a momentum rather than a kinetic energy effect. This results from the penetration to be a function of velocity rather than velocity squared. The striking velocity can be linearly approximated by:

V = CX

- V = Striking velocity in ft/sec
- C ≈ 571 ft/sec · inches
- X = Depth of penetration measured perpendicular to the Nu-Wood surface to genter of gravity of fragment (inches).

Fragment breakoffs are located at the point where the fragment is found. Pieces will be found at the larger piece fragment location. No breakoffs were found along the Nu-Wood path.

An examination of hore sight, fragment entrance, and finalized position in Nu-Wood co-ordinates reveals no appreciable air deflection and Nu-Wood deflection of fragments. Air deflection could be attributed to the sabot aiming the fragment after exit from the Mann barrel. Since the Nu-Wood deflection is slight, no transformations are made on the perpendicular to Nu-Wood surface penetration data. All the penetration data in Figure 3 need not be corrected for the slight angular deflections in Nu-Wood.

Some other interesting facts found from testing are:

- a. The recovered fragments had Mu-Wood clinging to them.
- b. As the fragment goes deeper into the Nu-Wood it tends to make a large and less clean or sharp hole. This could be attributed to Nu-Wood building up on the fragment as it penetrates.
- c. The Lexan sabot will be dented on its base from the fragment's initial momentum impulse.
- d. For better air flight stability a sahot fitting a fragment is better than a sabct with a hole too large.

TABLE II. PRESENTED AREAS AND PERIMETERS OF IMPACTING 15-GRAIN BOMB FRAGMENTS

	X(Depth of Penetration				
	Perpendicular to Nu-Wood			:	
	Surface to Estimated	A(Presented Area	P(Perimeter of	Striking	•
Shot	Center of Gravity of	of Impacting	Impacting	Velocity	< ¢
No.	Fragment) (in.)	Fragment) (in.)	Fragment) (in.)	(ft/sec)	ì.a
43	5.50	0.062	1,000	4764	0.062
23	00.9	0.116	1.688	5012	0.069
24	7,00	0.070	1.062	4779	990.0
39	7.12	0.040	1.031	5117	0.039
30	8.75	0.029	0.859	4887	0.034
41	9.50	0.056	1.141	4559	C.049
46	9,75	0.058	0.953	4870	0.061
32	10.00	0.065	1.000	4626	0.065
21	10,50	0.064	1,031	4787	0.062
51	12,00	0.058	0.875	4963	990.0
25	12.62	0.062	696*0	4923	0.064
48	14.00	0.058	0.938	4961	0.062
∞	5.50	0.074	1.078	2804	690.0
11	5.56	0.048	696*0	2876	0.050
28	00*9	0.086	1.094	3009	0.079
6	6,31	0.067	1.031	2849	0.065
52	7,38	0.067	1.125	2915	090*0
12	8.00	0.045	0.984	2875	0.046
ى	1.69	0.068	1.516	933	0.045
	1.75	0.067	1.109	837	090.0
V	2.00	0.055	1,031	806	0.053
17	2.19	0.055	1.016	806	0.054
2	2,25	0.021	0.766	206	0.02~
4	3.12	0.026	0.625	1120	0.042

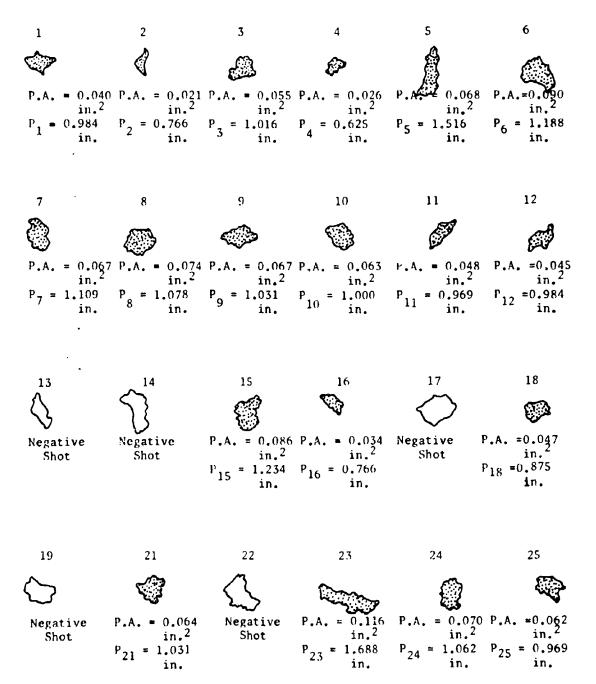
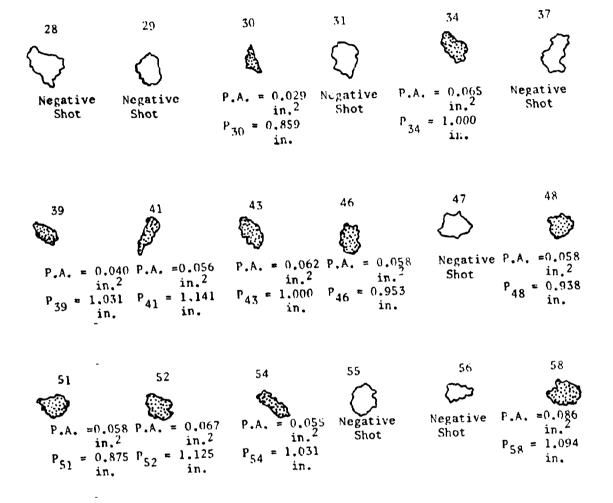


Figure 5. 15-Grain Bomb Fragment Impact Presented Areas and Perimeters



Note: 1. The Shot Number is listed above each fragment.

- 2. P.A. = Presented Area.
- 3. P_X = Perimeter for Shot X fragment.

Figure 5. (Cont'd)

TABLE III. MOMENTUM PENETRATION INTO NU-WOOD

	V(Approximate Striking		A(Presented Area	P(Perimeter	X(Penetration Measured Perpendicular to Nu-Wood Surface to	Normalized Penetration
Shot No.	(ft/sec) (K = thousand)	v ²	Fragment) (in.2)	Fragment (in.)	Center of Gravity of Fragment) (in.)	X 1.75
7	1 K	7		1.109	1.75	1.00
6	3 K	0 7	290.0	1.031	5,31	3.61
21	2 K	25 K		1.031	0.107	00.9
ь.				1.016	2.19	1.25
11	3 K	9 X	0.048	696*0	5.56	3.18
7	i I	1 K2		1,109	1.75	1.00
∞	υ Σ	9 K	0.074	1.078	5.50	3,14
7	- H	1 K		1,109	1.75	1.00
24	5 X	25 K	0.070	1.062	7.00	4.00
0	×	9 4		1,031	6.31	3.61
24	×	25 K 7	0.070	1.062	7.00	4.00
6	3 ×	9 K	0.067	1.031	6.31	3.61
25	S X	25 K		0,969	12.62	7.21
2	*	4	0.068	1.516	1.69	0.97
41	57 X	25 K		1.141	9.50	5.43
Line	Linear Approximation:	٦:				
	>	(X) 2 =	$C = \frac{1K}{1.75^{11}} =$	571 ft/sec.in.		

SECTION V CONCLUSIONS

The fundamental conclusions are:

- a. The existing Thor equation predictions for cylinders do not fit actual 15-grain bomb fragment data.
- h. Depth of penetration into Nu-Wood is not a reliable method to predict the velocity of 15-grain bomb fragments.
 - c. The fragments are momentum and not kinetic energy penetrators.
- d. The depth of penetration is not a primary function of the presented area and perimeter of the impacting fragments for 3000 ft/sec and 5000 ft/sec striking velocities. Shots at 1000 ft/sec indicate that depth of penetration is a primary function of the perimeter and presented area of the fragments.

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- 1. Section II of USAF TH 61A1-3-7 titled, "JMEM/AS Joint Service Test Procedures for High Explosive Bomb and Bomblets."
- 2. Malick, Donald, The Calibration of Wallboard for the Determination of Particle Speed, Mallistic Analysis Laboratory, TR-61, May 1966, page 16.

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